(*b*) whether there is an export duty on copra in Cochin ;

(*c*) whether there is an export duty on copra in Malabar ;

(*d*) whether there is any export duty on copra in Colombo ;

(*e*) whether there are any countries other than Travancore which levy export duty on copra ; and

(*f*) if so, their names ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) (*a*) India, Ceylon, Dutch East Indies and the Philippine Islands are some of the countries.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No.

(*d*), (*e*) and (*f*). Information is not available.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI: May I know why information is not available as to the imposition of an export duty on copra in Ceylon ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN : I cannot give any reason for that : information is not available that is all.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI: May I know whether, by interchange of informative periodicals or otherwise, the information is not available in the Legislative Council Library or in some other library, and whether no occasion has arisen so far for getting the information ?

PRESIDENT Such libraries were equally accessible to the member now asking the question as to the Government member.

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: The information could not be obtained within the time allotted for sending up the answer.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Was any attempt made to get the information ?

PRESIDENT: Attempt was not made because time did not permit it.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: Am I to understand that 12 days' notice is not sufficient to obtain this information ?

PRESIDENT: It has to be obtained from Ceylon.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: May I know when the question was sent by Mr. Narayana Menon ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN : I do not know, Sir.

The Text-Book Committee.

85. *MR. M. N. PARMESVARAN PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state who made the selection of the members of the Text-Book Committee ?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Deputy Director of Public Instruction*) : The Government, on the recommendation of the Director of Public Instruction.

MR M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: May I know the purpose for which the Text-Book Committee was constituted ?

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PRESIDENT: The nomenclature of the Committee explains it. (*Laughter.*)

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: The word "text-book" is there; I see it. I want to know the purpose for which the committee has been constituted?

PRESIDENT: To prescribe text-books; you can answer the question yourself.

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN: To consider the books placed before them and prepare a list of approved books.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: May I know whether any book not approved by this Committee has been accepted by Government?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN: No, Sir.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: If, as has been done this year, the choice of text-books is to be left to the discretion of the Headmasters, may I know why this Committee was constituted?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN: Headmasters are allowed to choose only from an approved list of books prepared by the Committee, and this only in regard to English books; Vernacular books have been prescribed by the Committee itself, as in former years.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Was there any special reason for leaving English books alone to the choice of the Headmasters?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN: In order that there should not be a dead level of uniformity throughout the State, and that the Headmasters may have a certain amount of liberty to choose text-books which they consider most suitable.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Is the member aware that, by the discretion being left to the Headmasters, students, even in one particular town, are put to serious inconvenience, and that, when children go with their parents from one place to another, on account of the transfer of the parents, they have to purchase and study new books?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN: The whole matter was carefully considered by the department and by the Government; and it was decided that the advantages far outweigh the disadvantages.

False records in the Central Vernacular Records.

86. *MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any of the records in the Central Vernacular Records has been examined by any expert at the instance of Government, if so, how many and the nature of the documents so examined;

(*b*) whether on such examination any document has been condemned as spurious; if so, how many and the nature of such documents;

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